

# The Washington Herald

Published Every Morning in the Year by  
The Washington Herald Company,  
425-427-429 Eleventh St. •• Washington, D. C.  
J. E. Rice, President and General Manager.

Phone: Main 3300—All Departments

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES—BY CARRIER**  
In the District of Columbia:  
Daily and Sunday, 1 Month, 40c; 1 Year, \$4.80  
Outside the District of Columbia:  
Daily and Sunday, 1 Month, 50c; 1 Year, \$6.00  
Daily and Sunday, 1 Month, 50c; 1 Year, \$6.00  
Daily Only, 1 Month, 40c; 1 Year, \$3.50

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

**BRANCH OFFICES:**  
London, Eng.: 124 Pall Mall, S. W. 1.  
Paris: 420 Rue St. Honoré.  
Berlin: Unter den Linden, 1.  
New York: 225 Fifth Ave.; Chicago: 900 Mallers  
Bldg.; Los Angeles: 401 Van Nuys Bldg.

**BENJAMIN & KENTNOR COMPANY,**  
National Advertising Representatives

Entered as Second-Class Matter,  
Postoffice, Washington, D. C.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1921.

## Impulsiveness and Discretion.

AMERICANS frequently are accused of being too impulsive, of letting the problem immediately before them blind them to others with which they may be later confronted. Almost daily there is given evidence of the truth of the allegation, in ill-considered action by mass meetings and other gatherings. A recent example of this was in New York, where a gathering of earnest idealists adopted resolutions intended to swell the rising tide of sentiment against war. They agreed, in the event of another war not to lend any assistance whatever. But what they overlooked was the contingency arising which might place them in the light of slackers if their resolutions were adhered to, remarks the Christian Science Monitor.

"There is surely such a thing as going to indiscreet extremes even in good resolutions. It depends on how you look at their action whether you feel inclined to regard the covenanters as a set of noble-minded beings or a set of prospective slackers. What if the United States should become involved in war? Would they refuse to help their country even in the prosecution of a just war in a righteous cause? The meeting perhaps made one little omission in its program: it apparently forgot to see to it that the various nations should first subscribe to the same tenets. Just a little oversight, and so much dependent upon it!"

## "Divine Comedy" of Today

THE six hundredth anniversary of the death of Dante passed in Washington with a good deal of public celebrating, a reconciliation between the delegates of two great nations, and the addition of a fine statue to one of the city's public parks.

But has the average resident of the Nation's Capital taken the trouble to attain any new insight into the life work of the great Italian? Has the high, austere spirit whose ashes have slept for six centuries under the pines at Ravenna been brought into closer communication with the thought of Twentieth century America?

Admirers of Dante, and their name is far from legion, are expressing grave doubts on this point. They suspect, with more or less concrete evidence to back their position, that the ponderous tomes of the Divine Comedy still repose dust-covered, on the shelves of most of our libraries.

Dante's message, say his admirers, is eternal, applicable in all centuries, interpretative of the weakness and the glory of all sons of Adam in all lands. Buried in antique language, unintelligible to most in its original, the message of the ascetic singer remains.

We suspect that much of the neglect shown in America, as well as other English-speaking lands, toward Dante is due to the fact that we have no adequate translation. The best and most frequently read is that by the highly overrated idol of American literature, Longfellow.

We will not say that Longfellow has no claim to be rated as a poet. In fact he has a place all his own, low perhaps, but still secure for at least two centuries to come. But as a translator of Dante he ranks below Pope as a translator of Homer.

Who was it that remarked, when he picked up a copy of Pope's translation: "A very pretty poem, but it's not Homer."

Those are about the same words an American familiar with both Longfellow and Dante might use with perfect justice. In all the long record of translations it is hard to find a greater incongruity.

Americans reading Dante through the medium of Longfellow get the New Englander's real appreciation of medieval romance and even a certain low lyrical measure now and then. They get also, and in plentiful measure, the milk-and-water, wishy-washy sentiment, unrelieved by the slightest grace of imagination, that is the most noticeable feature, after all, of America's most popular versemaker.

Rare, rare indeed would be the Harvard professor capable of appreciating, say nothing of translating, the man whose imagination fabricated Hell from the shadows of his prison cell, from the grotesque faces and twisted souls of the men and women he met in the multitudinous life of a mediaeval city.

Here exists an opportunity for a new poet to achieve a very conspicuous and lasting place in literature. There is a fortune in buried gold waiting for the prospector who knows how to mine it.

First of all, he must be a poet. Then he must know life as it is in his own day. A war correspondent who has seen something of Hell himself, might handle the task well.

Admirers of Dante complain. Yet the things they complain of are, perhaps, justified. There is a chance for someone to act.

## Peasantry or—Farmers?

THE economic and industrial troubles of mankind, in final analysis, all can be figured down to a question of proper liaison.

Between the farmer with stuffed storehouses and the city worker with lean larder there exists a mysterious, elusive X.

The raison d'être of economics and economic

research in relation to present-day problems is pretty largely the task of solving the X.

The United States is feeling more sharply than ever before, perhaps with real twinges of pain for the first time in her history, the results of the fact that she has failed to build up a very efficient liaison.

Before the world war, which played havoc with so many well-established economic fallacies, American farmers were largely self-satisfied and independent—men who looked with a certain ill-concealed contempt upon the vassals of industry.

The common advice to the young man in an American agricultural community was to stick to the land.

"It's hard work, but you will be independent," the good old deacons used to say when they addressed the high school graduating class.

Times have changed. The good old deacons are dead. Many of their sons did not follow their advice.

The result is appearing in the increasing number of tenant farmers to whom independence is less of a reality than to the organized industrial worker of a few years past. They differ from the peasants of England, France and Italy, of course, because they have better natural resources left with which to work.

The country boy, in search of more liberty, looks longingly from the hilltop hayfields toward the horizon where blue sky disappears in the smoke screen from mill chimneys.

America stands at the crossroads. She can follow the path Europe followed years ago when hurricanes of other wars swept over—and emerge with an agricultural peasantry. Or her economists can solve some means of preserving the good old deacon type who lived long, labored hard, took no back talk from anybody, and saw to it that the country school appropriation did not fall short.

How to preserve a well-balanced nation, how to keep proper liaison—the question has engaged the attention of the Federal Department of Agriculture.

A century ago Great Britain emerged from an almost purely agricultural nation into an almost purely industrial nation—depending on overseas dominions for her food supply. The transformation—they say so themselves—was not fortunate.

It would seem that such a trend in the United States should be retarded in the next few years—before it is too late.

Superintendent Finnegan of the Pennsylvania schools calls our problem here ideal, but he could not, apparently, find words that would describe school conditions here.

## Ladies, Make "Scenes"

THE editor in receipt of an anonymous communication in which a husband calls attention to a practice which sometimes occurs in darkened theaters of Washington—and all other large cities—namely, attempted flirtations, in no wise solicited by unaccompanied women.

Ordinarily, no attention is paid to missives bearing no signature or a nom de plume, but appreciating that reticence alone counsels the withholding of the name in such a case, we have a word to say which may be appreciated by the unidentified writer and which we hope may be heeded by women patrons of theaters in general.

It is simply this: To suffer silently beneath unwelcome approaches is the best way in the world to encourage the movie masher. "A Husband" states that his wife, rather than create a "scene," remained silent in her chair and finally changed to another part of the theater, where she was followed by the flirtatious cad. Now, women should understand enough of group psychology to remember that the creation of such a "scene" is a thing that could not possibly redound to their discredit. There would undoubtedly be a score of men ready to spring to her assistance and the offender, there can be no surmise to the contrary, would receive something more richly merited than a mere charge of "disorderly conduct" on a police blotter—to wit, a sound thrashing.

It is more than likely that such a person would protest he had made no advances until he became aware they would be responded to, but this would not save him. There is yet a chivalry abroad which counsels belief in the protestations of a good woman and disbelief in the equivocations of a petty persecutor.

There are certain sections of this country where a man would not dare attempt a flirtation unbeckoned, for he would be headed straight for trouble far more serious than blows. There is no reason a proper fear cannot be instilled into the cads whose function in public seems to be making unescorted women miserable, here in our own city. A few striking examples would give women a new place of praise and go far toward ending the reprehensible practice of "mashing" indoors or out.

"Women jurors upheld in Iowa," according to news items in the Chicago Tribune. In California, the women jurors do all the upholding themselves.

It is reported that the former crown prince of Germany has learned to make horseshoes which he sells as souvenirs for \$10 per and that he is anxious to come to America. It would be well to inform him that he could never get such a price for his work here.

In school a youngster is taught that the Senate is comprised of two Senators from each State, but when he visits the gallery with the rest of the civics class and sees about ninety empty Senatorial chairs he begins to doubt his teacher.

"Lost—Long black lady's kid glove between Lafayette and Bienville."—Adv. in Times-Picayune. From the description given it would be easier to find the loser than the article lost.

That prominent American who refused the Albanian throne apparently forgot about the possibilities of a moving picture contract to show off his crown.

"Congress Finds It Still Has a Liquor Problem."—News Item. That's not as bad as having a liquor problem still.

Henry Ford is credited with obtaining \$12 worth of by-product from coal that costs him \$4 a ton. If we could obtain \$1 worth of heat from—but what's the use.

## TRAGEDY OF THE STREET BY MINTYRE

Aged Woman Searches  
For Son Only When  
Mists Descend.

By O. O. MINTYRE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A heavy fog, steady and dense, had blown up from New York Bay. Night had settled over Fifth avenue, revealing shadowy forms of groping pedestrians, vaguely outlined vehicles and faint, long lines of light from the low strings of street lamps.

It was the kind of a night when clubmen settle comfortably in their deep leather chairs and find comfort in rubbing their hands cheerfully and remarking about the "mean weather." For the clubman, like the "donor," has a real affection for fog. Behind the grilles doors of Millionaire's Row, stern-visaged vassals in their uniforms gazed sadly into the thickening haze. Cabmen dropped on their high perches, a picture of Shelly's immortal line, "O wind! If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

It was one of those melancholy nights that would come to New York once in awhile—a subconscious persuasion that the great metropolis is not after all hectic hours of froth and tinsel. The cathedral chimers struck off an hour. The traffic towers flashed their last wink of danger.

Near the Union League Club I bumped into a shadow. There were apologies and a voice pitched to enduring servitude inquired if I had seen a lone lady going northward. I had not. There was sincere solicitation in his request.

So I volunteered any aid I might lend. "She never goes out," he said, "she was speaking of her mother-in-law. 'Save when a fog comes up. We watched her closely tonight, but she got away. Our fear is that she may wander to the docks and step off a pier.'"

The story. A mother who lost her son when a trans-Atlantic liner went down in a fog. She was with him and was saved. When a fog comes she goes out to find him and now and then calls out his name. Twelve years ago she lost him, and since the tragedy her mind, too, has been in a fog.

If you happen to have any old type of musical instrument around the attic you might be able to dispose of it by writing to William Fox, the New York motion picture magnate. For Fox has as a special hobby the collection of old and valuable musical instruments both string and brass. He has in a building where he has his offices at Tenth avenue and Fifty-fifth street a curio gallery of instruments from the Sixteenth century harpsichord to the Twentieth century jazz band skitter. He has 100 or more old horns and trumpets, bugles that called men to death, and harps that twanged in royal halls. He has a music box once owned by the former Kaiser, and harmoniphones that date back to the War of the Roses. Indeed, he even has a barrel organ and a mechanical flute, perhaps the only one in the world.

Julian Mitchell, who is directing a musical show, announced at a rehearsal the other morning that the chorus would report the following morning at 10 o'clock. "I wouldn't get up in the middle of the night for any stage manager," said one highly rouged chorine, and flounced out.

At the luncheon to Nahum Sokolow, the Jewish journalist, attended by New York editors, Adolph Ochs, of the Times, told of a Jew who came to Bishop's wall street building he desired to embrace Christianity. The bishop arranged for him to have a talk with one of the curates, but the applicant was insistent and said he wanted to see the bishop himself. "Why are you in such a hurry?" inquired the bishop.

"Well, my family done me dirt and I want to disgrace them."

## Watch Germans for Peace, Says Kipling

Before Rudyard Kipling left Paris for London on November 10, he was interviewed by Leo Bloch, for the *Elclair*.

He is quoted as saying: "The evil from which we are suffering results from the elections following the war, which did not do what we expected. The general sentiment of the country. I know the agricultural classes, and even the working classes, pretty well, and they do not see what is going on today."

ing eye. Mr. Lloyd George directs English politics as a politician, and not as a man of the people. The next elections, let us hope, will put right the evil that is now being done.

"The men who negotiated the armistice and were the authors of the peace treaty failed to insure either justice or security. We are very anxious in England that the men who were responsible for the war and the war criminals should receive exemplary punishment, but there has been only a parody of justice in regard to them. Even those who have been tried and sentenced are at liberty, which amounts to nothing less than a joke."

"Then, we are anxious that it should not be possible for war to begin again. To insure this we must keep a watch on the boches, prevent them from being able to harm henceforth, take away their arms and munitions, and allow you French to take revenge. I am not in favor of the left bank of the Rhine. It is very evident that the peace treaty in no way corresponds to what your hopes were during the war. The English people are suffering from the same fact, and for that they will call upon their governors for an account."

"Do you think the Washington conference will have any results?" the interviewer asked. Mr. Kipling replied: "Words! words! words! We have had enough of phrases, of talking, of speeches and resolutions. What is wanted are acts. Security above everything else. Suppose the war began again tomorrow. . . . My own son was killed on the field near Vipers-Cotelet. What our politicians do not sufficiently understand is that there are scattered throughout the whole of Europe, possibly throughout the whole world, fathers of families like myself who have lost sons in this war and whose one cry is for security."

Upsetting the Whole Office Again—By J. N. Darling.



## Open Court Letters to The Herald

Other People's Views on Current Events

### Aid Soldiers and Farmers, He Demands.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: That \$20,000,000 donation to Russia is just another Birmingham speech out of place and uncalled for, namely: Twenty million dollars should have gone for twenty brick hospitals instead of of plant fire-traps for former soldiers.

With thousands of our farmers down and out it could have erected the Temple of Agriculture in Washington, D. C. for our worthy farmers, who are the backbone of this nation and most damnable neglected by our Federal government. base this statement on hard facts, as every one knows the American farmer is being robbed by the worst marketing system on earth; yes, by Heaven, they take the levings after the Pecked Wall Street crowd fill their pockets with wonder who just who are the pets who will get the Russian glad hand of patronage. Is this \$20,000,000? Is it possible East Side Trotsky and his friends, Lenin, have many friends in Congress?

Down with internationalism; let's do something for the starving millions here in America, who in many instances are just around the corner from the porchouse. I challenge the right of our President to use the people's money to barter friendship with an uncertain people, especially so when they brag of their gold and furs to do business with. Not \$1 should go out of these United States for any purpose until our miserable, neglected former service men and the American farmers are humanly administered to.

All this secret diplomacy should end now and forever. The public must get up on the man from Maryland and the balance of his kind, and furthermore, don't start another school of propaganda through the press. Let us send \$20,000,000 for many of us believe this is only a beginner to grab off easy money from Uncle Sam.

It makes me sick. North Carolina. C. C. W.

### Wants Press to Aid Dyer Bill Passage.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: One of the bloodiest stains upon the pages of American criminology is that of lynching in its varied forms—hanging, and being riddled with bullets; weighted down with iron, and drowned; burned at the stake; shot to death; and otherwise murdered, are the methods pursued by "enlightened" Americans. Week after week the victims of the mob rend the heavens with their piercing, agonizing cries for mercy. Their crimes are not always the ones which invoke the death penalty. But the cowardice of the pulp and the press to speak against the vicious and abominable crime emboldens the violators of the law to do as they please. They have no respect for the rights of others under the law, and the victims of "lynch law" find no more favor at the hands of the courts than they do at the hands of the mob.

The voice of the Armenians is heard sooner than the voice of citizens crying aloud at our dock. For months on months the Dyer anti-lynching bill has been before the House of Representatives. Its purpose is the limitation of lynching. (By the way, would it not have been an excellent thing had there been a call of all the governors in the country in conference on the lynching business, which disgraces the name of America before the Birmingham speech was made?). It is hardly thought that the enactment of the bill will curb entirely the lynching habit, but the good it will effect is too obvious to need detailing.

Knowing, then, the good the enactment of the bill will do, it is passing strange that those who claim to have the interest of the

country at heart do not urge upon Congress the passage of the bill at once. What is the matter with the editors of the daily papers—do they not interpret the sentiments of the people? Why not some editorials on the subject? The only thing appearing yet is the news notices of its being acted upon in committee. Will The Herald say something? H. E. BARNETT.

### Says France Estranges Self.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: Pain, amazement, disgust. These in varying proportions have nearly filled my horizon since reading the armament program made public at the disarmament conference. The writer was doing relief work in France a year before his country entered the war on her side; since his earliest days he has heard her language in his home and loved her people and literature; he has freely accorded her first place in degree of civilization among the peoples of the world. It may be worth the while of the delegates of France to note the effect of their proposals on such a friendly American mind. The effect they have produced on the millions of less friendly disposed Americans can be rated accordingly.

It is still difficult for me to believe that the program outlined will have the backing of the French government or people. To combat it it first seemed to me that steam roller tactics on the part of the rest of the world would be advisable—but it is against the world of just such methods because of their evil after effects, that this conference hopes to be effective. The hurt France has done lies too deep for such treatment. I personally can only hope that this is but another case of a people being misrepresented by their government.

It is possible that some single-track minds in power in France are anxious to retaliate on us for Versailles by making the results of the Washington conference insignificant. If so they should be quickly made to see that the thing cannot go on indefinitely, and further, that the moral isolation of Germany during the war was far less complete than will be hers if she persists in flouting the world's most widespread hopes. Germany at least had some allies in her militaristic exploit; France will have none in hers. In one day France has done more to make American assistance in future war unlikely than her worst enemy could reasonably have hoped she might do in the course of ten years.

EDGAR WILLIAMS.

### Englishman Would Oust Gold.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: So far, all civilized barter is expressed in the terms of the amount of labor expended in the production of gold. This though uneconomical has been possible through the medium of an expensive system of trade credit.

The war caused a sudden and incalculable increase in the amount of barter, and barter of the worst kind—one-sided, and non-reproductive—forcing all the gold into one hand, thus making the use of gold for barter impossible, and creating the present world-wide depression. Briefly, supposing that instead of using for barter a gold token representing the labor expended in making an unproductive hole in the ground, a certificate was issued representing the labor expended in the creation of, say—a productive railroad or canal, the barter of the

## WEATHER DATA SERVE MARINERS AND AUTOISTS

Meteorologists Foretell  
Storms, Frosts, Fires  
And Road Mud.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1921.

"Lost Indians of the Willows" will be the subject of an illustrated paper to be delivered by Dr. J. Walter Fewkes, chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, before the meeting of the Anthropological Society of Washington, New National Museum, this afternoon, 4:45 o'clock.

### WEATHER BUREAU EXPANDS ACTIVITIES.

Supplementing the usual weather forecasts you will find on the first page of any daily newspaper and the fuller daily reports that are posted in the postoffices and public places all over the country, the Weather Bureau, a part of the Department of Agriculture, is now called upon to give weather data for various new activities that are influenced by the meteorological conditions.

Aviation is making growing demands for service and advice. There is also a need for data and certification of facts with reference to storm, weather, and rain insurance reports on the influence of weather upon the public highway; for extensions of its various services in reporting frosts, cold waves, and hurricanes. The weather service and advice carry with them an immediate and direct economic benefit in the saving of lives, properties, and foodstuffs for the nation, says the annual report of that bureau just issued.

### CONSIDER REVISION OF BUILDING CONTRACT FORMS.

A conference to consider the revision of present contract forms in the building industry has met at the call of Secretary of Commerce Hoover. The need of the revision was pointed out in the recent report on the elimination of waste which was made by the Federation American Engineering Societies.

The specific objects of the conference were: To create a universal document which will contain standard provisions for all classes of construction work, and to establish individual standard contract forms for each type of construction. By this means it is hoped to reduce the amount of legal service required and eliminate duplicate contracts already drawn; reduce duplication of work in the allied professions; safeguard owners and improve the standards of construction service. The American Engineering Council was represented by Mr. A. P. Davis, Director of the U. S. Reclamation Service; American Institute of Architects by W. S. Parker; American Railway Engineering Association by W. D. Fawcett; American Society of Civil Engineers by H. E. Breed; American Waterworks Association by J. W. do Smith; Western Society of Engineers by O. Bates; Associated General Contractors of America by J. W. Cooper; National Association of Builders' Exchanges by E. W. Reaugh.

Hurricanes and violent tropical storms which bring heavy rains and losses to shipping on the Gulf and alarm to residents of that whole coast. Advances sent out by the Weather Bureau and its field stations allay the fears of some and urge others to take precautions to minimize the destructive effects of the unescapable storms. Vessels at sea frequently receive radio warnings of storms, and are able to shun the storm. Warnings of frosts, cold waves, blizzards, and such weather conditions that are apt to be damaging to foodstuffs in storage are of immediate money benefit.

Forecasts are sent out to fire wardens and forestry associations whenever conditions are favorable for forest fires. In the summer months there is a long dry spell in the Northwest, when forecasts are of great value. The vessel weather service, crippled by the war, has now been largely restored and is more efficient than ever. There are now practically no complaints as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

Highway-weather service has proved to be popular, and applications for it are coming in from many parts of the country. The great increase in traffic on highways makes necessary an efficient and comprehensive system of information concerning road conditions as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

There are now practically no complaints as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

There are now practically no complaints as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

There are now practically no complaints as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

There are now practically no complaints as affected by past and future weather. At present the work is confined to main highways and to comparatively few sections.

### WHO'S WHO IN THE DAY'S NEWS

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, lecturer and woman suffrage leader, has been left to widowhood twice. Her first husband, Leo Chapman, died in 1885, and her second, George W. Catt, died in 1905. Mrs. Catt was born in Ripon, Wis., but in early life moved to Iowa and attended Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa. Later she studied law. She was a teacher and later principal of schools at Mason City, Iowa. She was with the National Woman Suffrage Association from 1892, serving as its president for four years, and for nine years was president of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

When not traveling in the United States or abroad, she makes her home in New York City.

### Ship Weathers Gale After All Hope Faded

WATERTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 19.—The steamer Clyde, one of the two which was thought to have foundered on Lake Ontario in the gale Sunday, was reported safe at Welland Canal today. She reported no news from the Corcoran, Canadian government lighthouse tender, missing with her crew of ten men since Friday morning.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GEOLOGICAL OFFICERS.

The following nominations for officers of the Geological Society of Washington have been made by the nominating committee, which will report at the meeting tonight, President, William C. Alden, Jr.; Loughlin, Sidney Paige, vice president; C. N. Fenner, F. E. Matthei, P. S. Smith, L. W. Stephenson; treasurer, G. R. Mansfield; secretary, Kirk Bryan, H. G. Ferguson; William T. Thom, Jr., members-at-large of the council, M. I. Goldsmith, Miss A. J. Jones, F. J. Katz, Laurence LaFlore, J. B. Reeside, Jr., S. Sosman, George Steiger, E. Wherry, R. C. Wells. W. D.